

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 1194

By Harper

A RESOLUTION to recognize and commend Cora Thompson Patton for honorable and astute service to the people of Tennessee.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to recognize those estimable public servants who have dedicated themselves to improving the quality of life for their fellow citizens; and

WHEREAS, Cora Thompson Patton is one such estimable person who evinces the greatest integrity and probity in all her chosen endeavors; and

WHEREAS, throughout her many years of legislative service, Mrs. Patton has distinguished herself as a public-spirited citizen of the highest order and as an exceptional asset to the Tennessee General Assembly; and

WHEREAS, a woman of tremendous grace and benevolence who embodies the best of her community, she was born and raised in Nashville and is the daughter of George H. Thompson and Gaynell Thompson; and

WHEREAS, as a graduate of Pearl High School and an alumna of Tennessee State University, Mrs. Patton offered forty years of dedicated and faithful public service to the Tennessee General Assembly, upholding the integrity and honor of this legislative body with her upright character and singular skills; and

WHEREAS, she spent a long, distinguished, and illustrious career with the Tennessee General Assembly, serving with the utmost professionalism, ability, and integrity, first as the Administrative Assistant to former Senator Edward Davis, and later as Administrative Secretary to Senator Thelma Harper; beginning in 1996, she served as the Journal Clerk in the Senate Clerk's Office until her retirement in 2008, earning the respect and admiration of the members of

the Tennessee General Assembly, her colleagues, and the citizens of the State of Tennessee for the exemplary quality of her work; and

WHEREAS, always offering a helping hand with a word of encouragement and a generous smile, Cora Thompson Patton serves as a source of inspiration to all who know her; and

WHEREAS, a highly respected member of her community who always works to improve the quality of life for her fellow citizens, she has volunteered her time and energies to several civic and community organizations, dedicating to each her coveted leadership abilities. She is a member of the Optimistic Study Club and a board member of Priest Lake Forest Condominiums, and as a member of the steering committee, she played an integral role in the planning of Pearl High School's Class of 1960 fiftieth reunion; and

WHEREAS, as a devoted member of Mt. Zion Baptist Church and a former member of Mt. Cavalry Baptist Church, Cora Thompson Patton is known for her solid Christian beliefs, her service and love, and her role as a reservoir of faith and outreach to the people of her community; and

WHEREAS, deeply inspired by her loving family, Mrs. Patton always endeavors to remain true to family values of the highest order; and

WHEREAS, she is the proud and loving mother of son, Andre (Rico) Patton; and

WHEREAS, a member of a blessed and dear family, she is the devoted sister of Jean Thompson, Barbara Thompson, George H. Thompson III, Calvin Thompson, Maylon Thompson, and Clyde Thompson; and

WHEREAS, Mrs. Patton epitomizes the ideal of the consummate professional, dedicated public servant, and reliable friend and neighbor; and

WHEREAS, exemplifying the characteristics of a true Tennessean, Cora Thompson Patton epitomizes the ideal of the dedicated professional who is wholly committed to the highest ideals of public service, and she should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE ONE HUNDRED SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES CONCURRING, that we hereby extend to Cora Thompson Patton our heartfelt wishes for a

happy and fulfilling retirement, as we commend her exceptional service to the Tennessee General Assembly and the citizens of Tennessee, and wish her every continued success in her future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.